

# The Life Of Saladin And The Fall Of The Kingdom Of Jerusalem

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**The Crusader States** - Malcolm Barber

2012-08-02

“An enriching account of the expansion of the political and cultural frontiers of the Latin West in the central Middle Ages.”—History Today  
When the armies of the First Crusade wrested

Jerusalem from control of the Fatimids of Egypt in 1099, they believed their victory was an evident sign of God’s favor. It was, therefore, incumbent upon them to fulfill what they understood to be God’s plan: to re-establish Christian control of Syria and Palestine. This

book is devoted to the resulting settlements, the crusader states, that developed around the eastern shores of the Mediterranean and survived until Richard the Lionheart's departure in 1192. Focusing on Jerusalem, Antioch, Tripoli, and Edessa, Malcolm Barber vividly reconstructs the crusaders' arduous process of establishing and protecting their settlements, and the simultaneous struggle of vanquished inhabitants to adapt to life alongside their conquerors. Rich with colorful accounts of major military campaigns, the book goes much deeper, exploring in detail the culture of the crusader states—the complex indigenous inheritance, the architecture, the political, legal, and economic institutions, the ecclesiastical framework through which the crusaders perceived the world, the origins of the Knights Templar and the Hospitallers, and more. With the zest of a scholar pursuing a life-long interest, Barber presents a complete narrative and cultural history of the crusader states while setting a

new standard for the term “total history.” A Choice Outstanding Academic Title in the Western Europe Category “Barber is a highly distinguished scholar, whose touch is continually deft, and he navigates the basis of the main narrative histories with care . . . a delight to read.”—Literary Review

[The Life of Saladin](#) - Hamilton Alexander Rosskeen Gibb 2006

Chronicle of a legendary figure by two of his contemporaries.

[Downfall of the Crusader Kingdom](#) - W B Bartlett 2011-09-30

Downfall of the Crusader Kingdom tells the story of the reason for Richard the Lionheart's infamous Third Crusade, culminating in the disastrous battle of Hattin in 1187. Hattin is one of the few battles in history that can truly be called decisive, and it was a catastrophe for the Crusaders. The leading men of the kingdom of Jerusalem, including the Knights Templar and the Hospitallers, were trapped in arid wasteland,

without water and surrounded by hostile forces. The battle ended with thousands of them being taken prisoner. It was the culmination of a series of events that had been progressively leading the kingdom of Jerusalem down the road to oblivion. It was partly the resurgence of the Muslim Middle East and the rise of Saladin that led to the loss of Jerusalem, but there was another equally dangerous element at work - the enemy within. W.B. Bartlett tells the story of naked ambition and intrigue that led to bitter infighting and ultimately the downfall of the Christian crusaders.

Saladin and the Fall of the Kingdom of Jerusalem  
- Stanley Lane-Poole 1898

This book lends a keen insight into the life and character of King Saladin. The author uses many primary sources of contemporary Muslim historians as well as the earlier writings on the subject by Sir Walter Scott as references and constructs a detailed and in-depth look inside the life of the famous Islamic king.

**Saladin** - Andrew S. Ehrenkreutz 2008-11-01

**The Life of Saladin: from the Works of 'Imād Ad-Dīn and Bahā' Ad-Dīn** - Hamilton Alexander Rosskeen Gibb 1973

*Saladin* - Diane Stanley 2002-08-06

Offers the story of Saladin who, devastated by tales of past conquest, worked to unite his divided people in order to gain strength and put an end to the invasions from the people from western lands.

**Saladin** - Hannes Möhring 2008-10-13

Known in the West as a "noble heathen," the great Muslim sultan Saladin led Muslim forces in the reconquest of the Crusader kingdoms and captured Jerusalem in 1187. This concise history traces Saladin's role in the contest between Islam and Christianity during the twelfth century. Following the Sultan's life from the rise of the Crusader states through his triumph over the Franks to the Third Crusade, Möhring

elucidates the sultan's accomplishments in uniting much of the Middle East, his enlightened relationship with European opponents, and the unique legacy of his rule in the Middle East and beyond. This faithful English-language translation also includes an introduction that places Saladin in his geographic, political, and cultural context.

### **The Life and Legend of the Sultan Saladin -**

Jonathan Phillips 2019-08-20

An engaging biography that offers a new perspective on one of the most influential figures of the Crusades. In 1187, Saladin marched triumphantly into Jerusalem, ending decades of struggle against the Christians and reclaiming the holy city for Islam. Four years later he fought off the armies of the Third Crusade, which were commanded by Europe's leading monarchs. A fierce warrior and savvy diplomat, Saladin's unparalleled courtesy, justice, generosity, and mercy were revered by both his fellow Muslims and his Christian rivals such as

Richard the Lionheart. Combining thorough research with vivid storytelling, Jonathan Phillips offers a fresh and captivating look at the triumphs, failures, and contradictions of one of the Crusades' most unique figures. Bringing the vibrant world of the twelfth century to life, this book also explores Saladin's complicated legacy, examining the ways Saladin has been invoked in the modern age by Arab and Muslim leaders ranging from Nasser in Egypt, Asad in Syria, and Saddam Hussein in Iraq to Osama bin Laden, as well as his huge appeal across popular culture in books, drama, and music.

### **Saladin and the Fall of the Kingdom of Jerusalem -**

Stanley Lane-Poole 1901

### **Queens of Jerusalem -**

Katherine Pangonis 2021-02-18  
In 1187 Saladin's armies besieged the holy city of Jerusalem. He had previously annihilated Jerusalem's army at the battle of Hattin, and behind the city's high walls a last-ditch defence

was being led by an unlikely trio - including Sibylla, Queen of Jerusalem. They could not resist Saladin, but, if they were lucky, they could negotiate terms that would save the lives of the city's inhabitants. Queen Sibylla was the last of a line of formidable female rulers in the Crusader States of Outremer. Yet for all the many books written about the Crusades, one aspect is conspicuously absent: the stories of women. Queens and princesses tend to be presented as passive transmitters of land and royal blood. In reality, women ruled, conducted diplomatic negotiations, made military decisions, forged alliances, rebelled, and undertook architectural projects. Sibylla's grandmother Queen Melisende was the first queen to seize real political agency in Jerusalem and rule in her own right. She outmanoeuvred both her husband and son to seize real power in her kingdom, and was a force to be reckoned with in the politics of the medieval Middle East. The lives of her Armenian mother, her three sisters, and their daughters

and granddaughters were no less intriguing. The lives of this trailblazing dynasty of royal women, and the crusading Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, are the focus of Katherine Pangonis's debut book. In *QUEENS OF JERUSALEM* she explores the role women played in the governing of the Middle East during periods of intense instability, and how they persevered to rule and seize greater power for themselves when the opportunity presented itself.

**Saladin** - John Man 2016-04-05

In this authoritative biography, historian John Man brings Saladin and his world to life with vivid detail in "a rollicking good story" (Justin Marozzi).

**The Islam Quintet** - Tariq Ali 2014-01-14

Five nuanced and powerful historical novels depicting the clashes among Muslims, Christians, and Jews from the Crusades to twenty-first-century London. Celebrated British-Pakistani journalist and author Tariq Ali takes a mind-expanding journey through the ages with

these five acclaimed works of fiction, available now in one collection. *Shadows of the Pomegranate Tree*: “Ali captures the humanity and splendor of Muslim Spain” in “an enthralling story, unraveled with thrift and verve” (*The Independent*). For the doomed Moors, the fall of Granada and the approaching forces of Christendom bring not peace but the sword. *The Book of Saladin*: After Saladin reclaims the holy city of Jerusalem from the Crusaders, he turns to a Jewish scribe to record his story, which Edward Said calls “a narrative for our time, haunted by distant events and characters who are closer to us than we had dreamed.” *The Stone Woman*: “Ali paints a vivid picture of a fading world,” proclaims the *New York Times Book Review*, as a distant descendant of an exiled Ottoman courtier suffers a stroke in Istanbul, and his family rushes to his side to hear his last stories. *A Sultan in Palermo*: In “a marvelously paced and boisterously told novel of intrigue, love, insurrection and manipulation,”

cartographer Muhammad al-Idrisi is caught between his friendship with King Roger of Sicily and the resentments of his fellow Muslims (*The Guardian*). *Night of the Golden Butterfly*: A Lahore-born writer living in London is called back to his homeland by an old friend who, at seventy-five, has finally fallen in love. “If Pakistan is a land of untold stories,” writes the *New Statesman*, Ali is “the country’s finest historian and critic.”

**The Satanic Verses** - Salman Rushdie 2000-12  
The explosion of a jetliner over India triggers an Apocalyptic battle that sweeps across the subcontinent. Reprint.

**The American Historical Review** - John Franklin Jameson 1899

**Warriors of God** - James Reston, Jr. 2007-12-18  
Acclaimed author James Reston, Jr.'s *Warriors of God* is the rich and engaging account of the Third Crusade (1187-1192), a conflict that would shape world history for centuries and which can

still be felt in the Middle East and throughout the world today. James Reston, Jr. offers a gripping narrative of the epic battle that left Jerusalem in Muslim hands until the twentieth century, bringing an objective perspective to the gallantry, greed, and religious fervor that fueled the bloody clash between Christians and Muslims. As he recounts this rousing story, Reston brings to life the two legendary figures who led their armies against each other. He offers compelling portraits of Saladin, the wise and highly cultured leader who created a united empire, and Richard the Lionheart, the romantic personification of chivalry who emerges here in his full complexity and contradictions. From its riveting scenes of blood-soaked battles to its pageant of fascinating, larger-than-life characters, *Warriors of God* is essential history, history that helps us understand today's world.

**Saladin and the Assassins** - Jirjī Zaydān 2011  
This historical romantic novel is set at the time of Saladin, the great religious reformer, mythical

leader and unifier of an Islamic world in disarray by political and social contradictions at the beginning of the twelfth century. Princess Sittalmulk, "The Lady of the Realm" is the beautiful and strong-willed sister to the weak Fatimid Caliph al-'Adid in Cairo. She has many suitors: Saladin has been persuaded that his political ambitions would be enhanced by a union with the caliph's sister. Such is also the case for the ruthless and ambitious Hasan who claims Fatimid ancestry and wants to become caliph. But the princess falls passionately in love with 'Imadin, a courageous commoner and member of Saladin's inner circle, after he saves her life and honor. Hasan a conspirator with few scruples arranges to have the princess abducted and uses the Assassins, a religious sect, to threaten and do away with Saladin. One morning Saladin wakes up with a dagger firmly planted above his head with a threatening letter signed by the "old man of the mountains" the Leader of the famous Assassins ready to sacrifice their

lives in the service of their cause. But 'Imadin, is determined to come to his master's rescue by personally confronting the Assassins while his loyalty to Saladin raises insurmountable conflicts within himself on how to respond to the princess's advances... The stage is thus set for the contest for the princess's heart interlaced with the battle for the caliphate to succeed al-'Adid. Who will prevail and how? The fast paced action, with lots of twists and turns, is full of suspense that keeps us guessing to the very end....

Accursed Tower - Roger Crowley 2019-11-19  
The city of Acre, powerfully fortified and richly provisioned, was the last crusader stronghold. When it fell in 1291, two hundred years of Christian crusading in the Holy Land came to a bloody end. With his customary narrative brilliance and immediacy, Roger Crowley chronicles the tumultuous and violent attack on Acre, the heaviest bombardment before the age of gunpowder, which left this once great

Mediterranean city a crumbling ruin. The 'Accursed Tower' was the focal point of this siege. As the last garrison of the Crusader defences, it came to symbolise the disintegration of the old world and the rise of a new era of Islamic jihad. Crowley's narrative is based on forensic research, drawing heavily on little known first hand sources, both Christian and Arabic. This is a fast-paced and gripping account of a pivotal moment in world history.

*Saladin* - Peter Gubser 2010-11-30

Saladin, the great twelfth century Middle East leader, not only created an empire, but also reduced the Crusader presence in the Holy Land. In a comprehensive manner and clear prose, Peter Gubser describes how Saladin rose to power, conquered lands, governed peoples, and raised armies. In addition, he clearly addresses Saladin's imperial motives, a combination of ambition and the devotion to the ideal of the unity of Islam.

*God's Wolf* - Jeffrey Lee 2017-05



The sweeping story of one of the most notorious crusader knights, Reynald de Chatillon - a great Christian hero of the Second Crusade and one of the most hated figures in Islamic history.

**Siege of Acre, 1189-1191** - John D. Hosler  
2018-06-26

The first comprehensive history of the most decisive military campaign of the Third Crusade and one of the longest wartime sieges of the Middle Ages The two-year-long siege of Acre (1189-1191) was the most significant military engagement of the Third Crusade, attracting armies from across Europe, Syria, Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the Maghreb. Drawing on a balanced selection of Christian and Muslim sources, historian John D. Hosler has written the first book-length account of this hard-won victory for the Crusaders, when England's Richard the Lionheart and King Philip Augustus of France joined forces to defeat the Egyptian Sultan Saladin. Hosler's lively and engrossing narrative integrates military, political, and religious

themes and developments, offers new perspectives on the generals, and provides a full analysis of the tactical, strategic, organizational, and technological aspects on both sides of the conflict. It is the epic story of a monumental confrontation that was the centerpiece of a Holy War in which many thousands fought and died in the name of Christ or Allah.

**the life saladin** - beha ed-din 1897

*Saladin* - John Man 2016-04-05

In this authoritative biography, historian John Man brings Saladin and his world to life with vivid detail in "a rollicking good story" (Justin Marozzi). Saladin remains one of the most iconic figures of his age. As the man who united the Arabs and saved Islam from Christian crusaders in the twelfth century, he is the Islamic world's preeminent hero. A ruthless defender of his faith and brilliant leader, he also possessed qualities that won admiration from his Christian foes. But Saladin is far more than a historical hero.

Builder, literary patron, and theologian, he is a man for all times, and a symbol of hope for an Arab world once again divided. Centuries after his death, in cities from Damascus to Cairo and beyond, to the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, Saladin continues to be an immensely potent symbol of religious and military resistance to the West. He is central to Arab memories, sensibilities, and the ideal of a unified Islamic state. John Man charts Saladin's rise to power, his struggle to unify the warring factions of his faith, and his battles to retake Jerusalem and expel Christian influence from Arab lands. Saladin explores the life and enduring legacy of this champion of Islam while examining his significance for the world today.

Throne of the Crescent Moon - Saladin Ahmed  
2012-02-07

Locus Award for Best First Novel winner Hugo Award for Best Novel finalist Nebula Award for Best Novel finalist David Gemmell Morningstar Award finalist "Ahmed is a master storyteller in

the grand epic tradition." —N. K. Jemisin *The Crescent Moon Kingdoms*, home to djenn and ghuls, holy warriors and heretics, are at the boiling point of a power struggle between the iron-fisted Khalif and the mysterious master thief known as the Falcon Prince. In the midst of this brewing rebellion a series of brutal supernatural murders strikes at the heart of the Kingdoms. It is up to a handful of heroes to learn the truth behind these killings. Doctor Adoulla Makhslood, "the last real ghul hunter in the great city of Dhamsawaat," just wants a quiet cup of tea. Three score and more years old, he has grown weary of hunting monsters and saving lives, and is more than ready to retire from his dangerous and demanding vocation. But when an old flame's family is murdered, Adoulla is drawn back to the hunter's path. Raseed bas Raseed, Adoulla's young assistant, is a hidebound holy warrior whose prowess is matched only by his piety. But even as Raseed's sword is tested by ghuls and manjackals, his soul

is tested when he and Adoulla cross paths with the tribeswoman Zamia. Zamia Badawi, Protector of the Band, has been gifted with the near-mythical power of the lion-shape, but shunned by her people for daring to take up a man's title. She lives only to avenge her father's death. Until she learns that Adoulla and his allies also hunt her father's killer. Until she meets Raseed. When they learn that the murders and the Falcon Prince's brewing revolution are connected, the companions must race against time-and struggle against their own misgivings-to save the life of a vicious despot. In so doing they discover a plot for the Throne of the Crescent Moon that threatens to turn Dhamsawaat, and the world itself, into a blood-soaked ruin.

*Saladin and the Fall of Jerusalem* - Stanley Lane-Poole 2002

Saladin is a legendary figure in the history of the Middle East. Saladin's rise to fame in the tumultuous arena of twelfth-century Middle

Eastern politics was rapid, and he quickly established himself as a military commander of genius, a man of honor, and an intrepid statesman. This classic detailed biography of Saladin and history of his life and times was written by the eminent historian Stanley Lane-Poole. The author, able to access the rich and colorful chronicles of Arab and Moslem historians, provides us with a brilliant insight into the life and deeds of this warrior-monarch. Based on a lifetime of study.

**The Rare and Excellent History of Saladin or al-Nawadir al-Sultaniyya wa'l-Mahasin al-Yusufiyya by Baha' al-Din Ibn Shaddad** - 2020-04-28

Saladin is perhaps the one and only Muslim ruler who emerges with any clarity in standard tales and histories of the Crusades; this is a translation of Baha' al-Din Ibn Shaddad's account of his life and career. Ibn Shaddad (1144-1234) was clearly a great admirer of Saladin and was a close associate of his, serving

as his qadi al-'askar (judge of the army), from 1188 until Saladin's death in 1193. His position and his access to information make this an authoritative and essential source for Saladin's career, while his personal relationship with the sultan adds a sympathetic and moving element to the account of his final years. Aside from its inherent value as a source for the history of Egypt and the Middle East, it therefore provides a much-needed complement and corrective to the widely-known Latin accounts of the Crusades and the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem in the 12th century. The present translation is based on a fuller edition of the text than that used in the previous 19th-century translation, and takes into account the translator's readings of the earliest manuscript of the work, dated July 1228.

*Saladin* - Anne-Marie Eddé 2014-05-01

"Saladin" represents the best kind of biography a portrait of a man who is said to have made an age, and the most complete account we have to date of an age that made the man. The result is a

unique view of the Crusades from an Arab perspective, and an erudite biography of a political figure whose image was layered in myth with the passage of time.

**Sanaaq** - Mitiarjuk Nappaaluk 2014-01-01

Sanaaq is an intimate story of an Inuit family negotiating the changes brought into their community by the coming of the qallunaat, the white people, in the mid-nineteenth century. Composed in 48 episodes, it recounts the daily life of Sanaaq, a strong and outspoken young widow, her daughter Qumaq, and their small semi-nomadic community in northern Quebec. Here they live their lives hunting seal, repairing their kayak, and gathering mussels under blue sea ice before the tide comes in. These are ordinary extraordinary lives: marriages are made and unmade, children are born and named, violence appears in the form of a fearful husband or a hungry polar bear. Here the spirit world is alive and relations with non-humans are never taken lightly. And under it all, the growing

intrusion of the qallunaat and the battle for souls between the Catholic and Anglican missionaries threatens to forever change the way of life of Sanaaq and her young family.

Saladin - Geoffrey Hindley 2007-04-19

This biography of the 12th century Islamic military leader provides a fascinating view of the Crusades and the Medieval Muslim world.

Saladin was a Kurdish military leader who led the fight against the Crusades and rose to become first Sultan of Egypt and Syria. He united warring Muslim lands, reconquered the bulk of Crusader states and faced King Richard I of England in one of the most famous confrontations in medieval warfare. His extraordinary character and career are the key to understanding the Battle of Hattin, the fall of Jerusalem and the failure of the Third Crusade. Historian Geoffrey Hindley's study of Saladin's life and times presents a nuanced portrait of this remarkable man who dominated the Middle East in his day. It also offers fascinating insight into

the politics and culture of the 12th century Muslim world.

**Jerusalem** - Simon Sebag Montefiore  
2011-10-25

"This is an essential book for those who wish to understand a city that remains a nexus of world affairs." —Booklist (starred) Jerusalem is the epic history of three thousand years of faith, fanaticism, bloodshed, and coexistence, from King David to the 21st century, from the birth of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam to the Israel-Palestine conflict. How did this small, remote town become the Holy City, the "center of the world" and now the key to peace in the Middle East? In a gripping narrative, Simon Sebag Montefiore reveals this ever-changing city in its many incarnations, bringing every epoch and character blazingly to life. Jerusalem's biography is told through the wars, love affairs, and revelations of the men and women who created, destroyed, chronicled and believed in Jerusalem. As well as the many ordinary Jerusalemites who

have left their mark on the city, its cast varies from Solomon, Saladin and Suleiman the Magnificent to Cleopatra, Caligula and Churchill; from Abraham to Jesus and Muhammad; from the ancient world of Jezebel, Nebuchadnezzar, Herod and Nero to the modern times of the Kaiser, Disraeli, Mark Twain, Lincoln, Rasputin, Lawrence of Arabia and Moshe Dayan. In this masterful narrative, Simon Sebag Montefiore brings the holy city to life and draws on the latest scholarship, his own family history, and a lifetime of study to show that the story of Jerusalem is truly the story of the world. A New York Times Notable Book Jewish Book Council Book of the Year

**The Life of Saladin and the Fall of the Kingdom of Jerusalem** - Stanley Lane-Poole  
2017-08-17

Saladin, one of the most prominent figure of the time of the Crusades, was a great muslim leader, respected and praised even by his Crusader foes.

*The French of Outremer* - Laura K. Morreale  
2018-04-10

The establishment of feudal principalities in the Levant in the wake of the First Crusade (1095-1099) saw the beginning of a centuries-long process of conquest and colonization of lands in the eastern Mediterranean by French-speaking Europeans. This book examines different aspects of the life and literary culture associated with this French-speaking society. It is the first study of the crusades to bring questions of language and culture so intimately into conversation. Taking an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the crusader settlements in the Levant, this book emphasizes hybridity and innovation, the movement of words and people across boundaries, seas and continents, and the negotiation of identity in a world tied partly to Europe but thoroughly embedded in the Mediterranean and Levantine context.

*The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of*

*the Crusades* - Anthony Bale 2019-01-03

This volume offers a literary and cultural history of the idea of crusading over the last millennium.

*The Crusader States and their Neighbours* -

Nicholas Morton 2020-04-24

The Crusader States and their Neighbours explores the military history of the Medieval Near East, piecing together the fault-lines of conflict which entangled this much-contested region. This was an area where ethnic, religious, dynastic, and commercial interests collided and the causes of war could be numerous. Conflicts persisted for decades and were fought out between many groups including Kurds, Turks, Armenians, Arabs, and the crusaders themselves. Nicholas Morton recreates this world, exploring how each faction sought to advance its own interests by any means possible, adapting its warcraft to better respond to the threats posed by their rivals. Strategies and tactics employed by the pastoral societies of the Central Asian Steppe were pitted against the

armies of the agricultural societies of Western Christendom, Byzantium, and the Islamic World, galvanising commanders to adapt their practices in response to their foes. Today, we are generally encouraged to think of this era as a time of religious conflict, and yet this vastly over-simplifies a complex region where violence could take place for many reasons and peoples of different faiths could easily find themselves fighting side-by-side.

*Saladin* - Geoffrey Hindley 2007-04-19

This biography of the 12th century Islamic military leader provides a fascinating view of the Crusades and the Medieval Muslim world. Saladin was a Kurdish military leader who led the fight against the Crusades and rose to become first Sultan of Egypt and Syria. He united warring Muslim lands, reconquered the bulk of Crusader states and faced King Richard I of England in one of the most famous confrontations in medieval warfare. His extraordinary character and career are the key

to understanding the Battle of Hattin, the fall of Jerusalem and the failure of the Third Crusade. Historian Geoffrey Hindley's study of Saladin's life and times presents a nuanced portrait of this remarkable man who dominated the Middle East in his day. It also offers fascinating insight into the politics and culture of the 12th century Muslim world.

*Saladin and the Fall of Jerusalem* - Stanley Lane-Poole 2018-01-30

SALADIN is one of the few Oriental Personages who need no introduction to English readers. Sir Walter Scott has performed that friendly office with the warmth and insight of appreciative genius. It was Saladin's good fortune to attract the notice not only of the great romancer, but also of King Richard, and to this accident he partly owes the result that, instead of remaining a dry historical expression, under the Arabic style of "el-Melik en-Nasir Salah-eddin Yusuf ibn Ayyub," he has become, by the abbreviated name of "Saladin," that familiar and amiable

companion which is called a household word. The idea, it is true, is vague and romantic.

**Lionhearts** - Geoffrey Regan 1998

In this parallel biography of two great Medieval figures, Geoffrey Regan views them as different sides of the same coin, and observes that to their respective faiths both leaders were heroes of the holy war and worthy of the title Lionheart.

The Book of Saladin - Tariq Ali 2013-10-15

"Whether depicting erotically charged harem intrigue or siege warfare, *The Book of Saladin* is an entertaining feat of revisionist storytelling" —The Sunday Times As victories mount and accolades are showered upon the great warrior Saladin, he is nearly deified. He conquers the infidel Franj, or Crusaders, and reclaims the holy city of Jerusalem while remaining true to his senses of honor, justice, and humor. When it comes time for Saladin to record his own story, he turns to a Jewish scribe. In the interlinking stories of *The Book of Saladin*, the mighty sultan deftly navigates the deep chasms separating



Muslims, Christians, and Jews.

Saladin in His Time - P. H. Newby 2001

As the Muslim sultan of Egypt, Syria, Yemen and Palestine, Saladin achieved great successes in the wars against Christian crusaders, particularly with his capture of Jerusalem in 1187, ending its 88-year occupation by the Franks. The discipline of his army then was in marked contrast to the indiscriminate slaughter that had followed the Christians' victory in 1099. In this thoroughly researched yet effortlessly readable account, the distinguished historian P.H. Newby paints the picture of Saladin as a skilful diplomat quite capable of backing his diplomacy with the swift and

resolute use of force. His reputation as a generous and virtuous but firm ruler contrasts strongly with most of his predecessors and peers, Christian and Muslim. His unwavering devotion to the jihad, or holy war, inspired him - and his armies - to spread Islam and Muslim institutions throughout his empire and enabled him to fight the greatest champions of Christendom to a draw. Possessing many of the virtues the Crusaders assumed to be Christian, Saladin died without enough money to pay for his own grave.

*The Life of Saladin* - Yūsuf ibn Rāfi' Ibn Shaddād  
1897